



See It, Stop It! Fighting Animal Cruelty

Loudoun County Animal Control investigates several hundred reports of animal cruelty every year. Sometimes those reports turn out to be a misunderstanding, and the animal is fine. But many times the animal is being hurt or neglected and action must be taken.



Animal cruelty is illegal in every state in the country, and people who hurt animals are more likely to commit violent crimes than those without a history of animal abuse. By knowing the signs of animal cruelty, and what to do if you suspect animals are being hurt, we can help break the cycle.

How can you help?

By educating your neighbors, classmates, and friends about **signs of animal cruelty and how to report cruelty in your community**, you can help ensure that all animals are treated humanely and with kindness.

Research

Research the signs of animal cruelty, animal cruelty laws, and what to do if you believe an animal is being injured or neglected. Some good resources to get started are:

- Loudoun County Animal Control (<http://www.loudoun.gov/animals>)
- ASPCA (<http://www.asPCA.org/fight-animal-cruelty/>)
- American Humane Association (<http://www.americanhumane.org/>)
- Humane Society of the United States (<http://www.humanesociety.org/issues/>)
- PAWS Kids (<http://www.pawskids.org/>)

Educate

Share what you've learned! Make posters and find locations in the community to display them (libraries, community centers, stores, vet offices – be creative).

Do a presentation for your school, church group, homeowner's association, scout troop – anywhere! Create a flyer or brochure. Make a website! Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper.

Be sure to let people know what to look for and how to report animal cruelty. **Remember to tell kids never to help an abused animal or confront an abuser alone! Always tell a trusted adult to contact Animal Control.**

Report

Let us know what you have done! Write a report on your project and send it to Animal Care & Control. You'll receive a Certificate of Appreciation and inclusion in our monthly newsletter. Reports should be sent to:

Laura Rizer, Community Outreach Manager
Loudoun County Animal Care & Control
39820 Charles Town Pike, Waterford, VA 20197
Email: Laura.Rizer@loudoun.gov

Group leaders: be sure to include names for the certificates needed and where they should be sent. Questions should be directed to Laura Rizer at 703-737-8045.